

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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## **SIX ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS SELECTED AS BEST PRACTICE SITES**

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – Six alternative education programs have been selected as Best Practice Sites in a new effort designed to recognize the work of educators and programs that serve at-risk students.

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) began the project this year to highlight exemplary practices in A5 and A6 programs in public school districts. A5 programs are school district-operated and -housed instructional programs that provide services to at-risk students with unique needs, and A6 programs are district-operated instructional programs that are located in non-district facilities or schools that serve youth who are considered state agency children through the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Community Based Services and/or the Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services.

The programs were self-nominated in the categories of Academic Performance; Learning Environment; and Efficiency. The six programs named as Best Practice Sites for 2009 are:

- Graduation Success Academy (Bath County) -- Best Practice Site in the Efficiency category
- Ramey Estep High School (Boyd County) – Best Practice Site in all three categories
- Calloway County Day Treatment -- Best Practice Site in all three categories
- Beacon Central High School (Daviess County) -- Best Practice Site in the Learning Environment category
- Brooklawn School (Jefferson County) -- Best Practice Site in the Efficiency category
- The Providence School (Jessamine County) -- Best Practice Site in all three categories

(more)

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School districts nominated their programs for recognition based on criteria developed by the KDE Alternative Education Advisory Committee. Applications were screened, and finalists received site visits from a KDE review committee.

The goal of establishing Best Practice Sites is included in the KDEs *Action Plan for Alternative Education Programs*. This plan, approved by the Kentucky Board of Education in February 2008, establishes a number of initiatives to ensure that students in A5 and A6 programs continue to receive high-quality educational services.

Each program selected as a Best Practice Site will receive \$1,000 for instructional support and will be formally recognized at a future meeting of the Kentucky Board of Education. Information on the schools also will also be posted on the KDE Web site, so that other schools can use the program as a model.

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